Written testimony of T. Michael Morrissey, Morrissey Consulting, LLC 332 Strickland ST, Glastonbury, CT 06033 860-280-8027 Morrissey.consulting@cox.net

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

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CT General Assembly

Reference: S.B. No. 843 AN ACT CONCERNING REVENUE ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET.

Good morning Senator Fonfara and Representative Widlitz and other distinguished members of your committee. I am Mike Morrissey, from Glastonbury. I am also the Connecticut State Director to the National Propane Gas Association. Today, I represent our local trade association members who provide propane gas service to our state. I am here to comment on S.B. No. 843 AN ACT CONCERNING REVENUE ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET.

Let me begin by stating "What is good for the goose, should be good for the gander" which brings me immediately to Section 18 of this bill. Our industry sells over 112 million gallons of propane; America's other natural gas, annually, to over 300,000 customers in Connecticut. Many of these customers will never be able to hook up to the other natural gas because of their geographic locations. However, these same customers contribute to the Gross Earnings account and should be entitled to the same credit proposed by this bill especially if a propane customer wants to upgrade their heating systems to more efficient equipment.

After all, an entire section of our Governor's Compressive Energy Strategy, is dedicated to improving efficiency. More efficient equipment means additional investment by our customers. If one type of customer is entitled to a credit, than our "gander" or customer base should be entitled to the same credit as well.

Finally, in preparation for this testimony, I checked in with our office headquartered in Washington DC and we are not aware of any state which limits a benefit or credit to a prospective natural gas customer only.

This completes my testimony and I am prepared to answer questions, should there be any now.

Thank you.